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JUL 17 2007

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1 (Currently amended). An article of manufacture having applied to a predefined area thereof thereto a spatial arrangement of a group of marks collectively representing characteristics useful for identifying a specific person, wherein a likelihood of a match may be determined between said characteristics represented by said spatial arrangement of said group of marks and characteristics identifying a person to be verified and represented by a selected reference comprising a spatial arrangement of reference points, said likelihood of a match determined by direct and/or indirect visual comparison of said spatial arrangement of said group of marks with said spatial arrangement of reference points for verifying whether said person to be verified is the same person whose characteristics are represented by said spatial arrangement of said group of marks arranged for associating a specific person with said article, the group of marks collectively being useful for identifying said person and said marks being collectively derived from physical characteristics of said person.

2 (Currently amended). An article of manufacture according to claim 1 wherein said characteristics useful for identifying a specific person comprise characteristics of a fingerprint and said spatial arrangement of said group of marks are is derived from characteristics of a fingerprint of said specific person.

3 (Currently amended). An article of manufacture according to claim 1 wherein said characteristics useful for identifying a specific person comprise characteristics of an eye and said spatial arrangement of said group of marks are is derived from characteristics of an eye of said specific person.

4 (Currently amended). An article of manufacture according to claim 1 wherein said characteristics useful for identifying a specific person comprise characteristics of a face and said spatial arrangement of said group of marks are is derived from characteristics of a face of said specific person.

5 (Currently amended). An article of manufacture according to claim 1 wherein said predefined area comprises additional visual information in addition to said spatial arrangement of said group of marks, said spatial arrangement of said group of marks overlaying said information and said spatial arrangement of said group of marks are being unobtrusive to an unaided human eye.

6 (Currently amended). An article of manufacture according to claim 1 wherein said spatial arrangement of said group of marks is not visually detectable but is are detectable by other predetermined optical means.

7 (Currently amended). An article of manufacture according to claim 4 5 wherein said information is a photograph and said spatial arrangement of said group of marks overlays are overlaid over a said photograph of said person.

8 (Currently amended). An article of manufacture according to claim 1 wherein said spatial arrangement of said group of marks comprises at least two sub-groups of marks, each sub-group of marks being derived from a specific distinct group of physical characteristics of said specific person.

9 (Currently amended). An article of manufacture according to claim 8 wherein at least one of said at least two sub-groups of marks is derived from characteristics of a fingerprint of said specific person said characteristics comprising physical dimensions.

10 (Currently amended). An article of manufacture according to claim 8 wherein at least one of said at least two sub-groups of marks is derived from characteristics of an eye of said specific person said characteristics comprising physical dimensions.

11 (Currently amended). An article of manufacture according to claim 8 wherein at least one of said at least one of said at least two sub-groups of marks is derived from characteristics of a face of said specific person said characteristics comprising physical dimensions.

12 (Original). An article of manufacture according to claim 8 wherein each sub-group of marks of said at least two sub-groups of marks is separately detectable by using detection means.

13 (Original). An article of manufacture according to claim 12 wherein said detection means comprises different wavelengths of light.

14 (Original). An article of manufacture according to claim 12 wherein adjustment of said detection means allows for detection of different sub-groups of marks.

15 (Original). An article of manufacture according to claim 8 wherein different sub-groups of marks comprise differently sized indicia.

16 (Original). An article of manufacture according to claim 8 wherein different sub-groups of marks comprise differently shaped indicia.

17 (Currently amended). An article of manufacture according to claim 1 wherein said selected reference set of reference points is derived from a measurement of said characteristics of said person to be verified prior to said determining of a likelihood of a match group of marks is placed in an area containing other data.

18 (Currently amended). An article of manufacture according to claim 1 wherein said spatial arrangement of said group of marks is a result of applying a visual transformation process to a spatial arrangement of original marks data set derived from said physical characteristics useful to identify of said person and said identifying of a match is by indirect optical comparison of said group of marks to said selected reference set.

19 (Currently amended). An article of manufacture according to claim 17 4 wherein said measurement is a biometric sample of said person to be verified ~~said article has at least one predefined area where said group of marks is printed.~~

20 (Canceled).

21 (Currently amended). An article of manufacture according to claim 1 wherein said spatial arrangement of said group of marks is printed on said article.

22 (Currently amended). An article of manufacture according to claim 1 wherein said spatial arrangement of said group of marks is embossed on said article.

23 (Currently amended). An article of manufacture according to claim 1 wherein said spatial arrangement of said group of marks is engraved on said article.

24 (Currently amended). A graphical constellation of marks applied to a predefined area of a substrate, wherein said constellation of marks collectively represents a set of points of interest together defining characteristics useful for identifying a specific person, and wherein said set of points of interest is determinable from said constellation of marks, said constellation of marks being useful, by direct optical comparison of said marks and/or said points of interest to a selected reference comprising a set of reference points defining characteristics identifying a person to be verified, to determine whether it is likely that said characteristics represented by said constellation of marks match characteristics represented by said selected reference ~~an article of manufacture a positioning of each mark of said constellation of marks in said area being derived from a physical characteristic of a specific person such that a collective arrangement of said constellation of marks is unique to said person, said constellation of marks being useful for associating said article to said person.~~

25 (Currently amended). A constellation of marks according to claim 24 wherein said physical characteristics defined by said points of interest are is found on a body part of said specific person and said determination of whether a match is likely is for verifying whether said person to be verified is the same person whose characteristics are defined by said points of interest so as to thereby associate an article comprising said substrate with said person to be verified.

26 (Original). A constellation of marks according to claim 25 wherein said body part is a finger.

27 (Original). A constellation of marks according to claim 25 wherein said body part is an eye.

28 (Original). A constellation of marks according to claim 25 wherein said body part is a face.

29 (Currently amended). A constellation of marks according to claim 24 wherein said specific predefined area contains data comprises visual information in addition to other than said constellation of marks and said constellation of marks overlays said information, said constellation of marks being unobtrusive to an unaided human eye.

30 (Currently amended). A constellation of marks according to claim 29 wherein said information comprises ~~specific area contains~~ a photograph of said person.

31 (Currently amended). A constellation of marks according to claim ~~30~~ 25 wherein said substrate is a sheet of material for use in making an identity card and said article is an identity card ~~constellation of marks are overlaid on said photograph.~~

32 (Currently amended). A constellation of marks according to claim 25 wherein said constellation comprises at least two sub-groups of marks, wherein each sub-group of marks collectively represents a different said set of points of interest wherein said sets of points of interest define distinct characteristics useful for identifying said

~~specific person corresponding to physical characteristics found on different body parts.~~

33 (Original). A constellation of marks according to claim 32 wherein each sub-group is separately detectable by an adjustment of optical illumination means.

34 (Original). A constellation of marks according to claim 33 wherein said adjustment adjusts a wavelength of light being used to detect said sub-groups.

35 (Currently amended). A constellation of marks according to claim 24 wherein said set of points of interest and said constellation of marks are one and the same, said direct optical comparison being between said marks and said selected reference a position of at least one of said marks is visually transformed such that said position is adjusted.

36 (Currently amended). A constellation of marks according to claim ~~35~~ 24 wherein said set of points of interest is determined from said constellation of marks said position is adjusted according to a predetermined mathematical formula.

37 (Currently amended). A constellation of marks according to claim ~~35~~ 24 wherein said set of points of interest is determined from said constellation of marks by applying a pre-determined spatial transformation of said marks an original position of said at least one of said marks is recoverable.

38 (Currently amended). A method of ~~matching~~ associating an article of manufacture with a specific person to be verified, the method comprising:

a) optically detecting a first graphical constellation of marks applied to a predefined area of said article, said first graphical constellation of marks being applied to a specific area of said article corresponding to a set of points of interest defining characteristics useful for identifying a specific person and being determinable from said first graphical constellation of marks;

b) ~~processing said constellation of marks to result in a graphical representation~~

~~useful for comparison with a data set associated with said person;~~

~~b) e) acquiring a biometric sample of said characteristics from said person to be verified and representing said characteristics from said person to be verified by a second graphical constellation of marks said data set associated with said person;~~

~~c) d) optically comparing said first graphical constellation of marks and/or said set of points of interest with said second graphical constellation of marks data set and said representation to determine a likelihood of a match between said characteristics useful to identify said specific person and said characteristics from said person to be verified data set and said representation; and~~

~~d) e) If a said likelihood exceeds a predetermined threshold, associating said article with said person to be verified.~~

39 (Currently amended). A method according to claim 38 wherein step a) includes illuminating said specific predefined area with light having a specified-predefined wavelength required to render visible said first graphical constellation of marks.

40 (Currently amended). A method according to claim 38 wherein step a) includes detecting said first graphical constellation of marks from additional visual information applied to said predefined area, said first graphical constellation of marks being unobtrusive within said additional visual information to an unaided human eye b) ~~includes optically scanning said constellation of marks detected in step a).~~

41 (Currently amended). A method according to claim 38 ~~wherein step b) includes~~ including the step of applying a visual transformation process to said first graphical constellation of marks to determine said set of points of interest ~~recover original positions of said constellation of marks.~~

42 (Currently amended). A method according to claim 38 whereby said first graphical constellation of marks is one and the same as said set of points of interest, each said mark's positioning having been derived from physical characteristics of a specific person such that said first graphical constellation of marks is unique to said specific person ~~wherein step b) includes mapping said constellation on to a predefined grid.~~

43 (Currently Amended). A method according to claim 38 wherein said characteristics are unique to and taken from a person's body part, and selected from one of a group consisting of a fingerprint, a retinal pattern and a facial pattern ~~step e) includes accessing a database and retrieving said data set.~~

44 (Currently amended). A method according to claim ~~43~~ 38 wherein step b) e) includes directly acquiring said biometric sample ~~data set~~ from said person to be verified by way of a biometric acquisition system.

45 (Currently Amended). A method according to claim ~~42~~ 38 wherein said characteristics are unique to and taken from a person's body part, and selected from one of a group consisting of a fingerprint, a retinal pattern and a facial pattern ~~said constellation of marks comprises a constellation of marks applied to a predefined area of an article of manufacture, a positioning of each mark of said constellation of marks in said area being derived from a physical characteristic of a specific person such that a collective arrangement of said constellation of marks is unique to said person, said constellation of marks being useful for associating said article to said person.~~

46 (Currently amended). A constellation of marks according to claim 24 wherein said selected reference is derived from a measurement of said characteristics of said person to be verified prior to determining said likelihood of whether said characteristics represented by said constellation of marks match said characteristics represented by said selected reference ~~A method according to claim 38 wherein said article comprises an article of manufacture having applied thereto said constellation of marks arranged for associating a specific person with said article, the constellation of marks collectively being useful for identifying said marks being collectively derived from physical characteristics of said person.~~

47 (Currently amended). An article of manufacture according to claim 1 wherein said spatial arrangement of said group of marks is applied to said article by three dimensional marking means.